

REMARKS

A. The Section 103 Rejections Based on Groner and Bissonnette

Claims 1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 19 and 22-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on the combination of U.S. Patent No. 5,668,928 to Groner (“Groner”) and U.S. Patent No. 5,602,963 to Bissonnette et al. (“Bissonnette”). Applicant respectfully disagrees and traverses these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Of the rejected claims, claims 1, 8 and 15 are independent claims. It is to these claims that Applicants now turn, it being understood that the remarks which follow apply equally to the remaining claims.

Claim 1 includes the features of a user interface, wherein upon selection of one field and receipt of a recognized command spoken by a user, the user interface displays a list of recognized input terms in a pull-down menu that are appropriate for input into the selected field. Contrary to the Examiner’s position, Groner does not disclose or suggest these features.

The Examiner directs the Applicant’s attention to column 7 of Groner as purportedly disclosing the features above. This excerpt from Groner appears to disclose “pull down menus” 210, 212 and “speech recognition procedures” 156, including a “Voice Tool” 170. However, this excerpt does not describe the display of a pull down menu after the selection of a field and receipt of a spoken, user command. In fact, Groner’s pull down menus and Voice Tool do not appear to work in combination at all.

Similarly, in claim 8 instructions for “causing [a] user interface to display a list of recognized input terms for inputting into [a] selected field if at least one word is recognized as a command” are preceded by instructions “for receiving audio input in the form of at least one word from a list from a user” and “for recognizing the at least one word as an input term or a command”. Such instructions are not disclosed or suggested in Groner for similar reasons as set forth above with respect to claim 1.

Turning to claim 15, it includes similar features as claim 1 and 8 though described as a part of a method. For example, claim 15 includes the features of: receiving audio input in the form of at least one word from a user for a selected field; recognizing the at least one word as an input term or a command; and, if the at least one word is recognized as a command then causing a user interface to display a list of recognized input terms for inputting into a selected field. Similar to the discussion of claims 1 and 8, Groner does not disclose a method that displays a list of recognized input terms after receiving an audio input (e.g., word) for a selected field from a user and, provided, the input is recognized as a command.

Nor does Bissonnette make up for the deficiencies of Groner.

Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the pending rejections and allowance of claims 1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 19 and 22-27.

B.) The Section 103 Rejections Based on Groner, Bissonnette and Vanbuskirk

Claims 4, 11 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on the combination of Groner, Bissonnette and U.S. Patent No. 6,308,157 to Vanbuskirk et al ("Vanbuskirk"). Applicant respectfully disagrees and traverses these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Because claims 4, 11 and 18 are dependent on either 1, 8 or 15 and because Vanbuskirk does not make up for the deficiencies of Groner and Bissonnette, the Applicant submits that claims 4, 11 and 18 are patentable over Groner, Bissonnette and Vanbuskirk for the reasons set forth above regarding claims 1, 8 and/or 15.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John E. Curtin at the telephone number listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3777 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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